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# SEXUAL ASSAULT INITIATIVE 1991-92

# Update



## INTRODUCTION

As part of the Ontario government's commitment to addressing the issue of violence against women, the Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault was formed in May 1988. The committee was given a mandate to:

- examine the resources available to deal with sexual assault;
- provide a comprehensive and coordinated approach to issues relating to sexual assault;
- address the role and funding of rape crisis centres.

In October 1988 and again in April-May 1989, the committee held community consultations to identify gaps in services for victims of sexual assault in Ontario. The information gathered formed the basis of a report to Cabinet.

As a result, in January 1990, the government announced new funding of nearly \$30 million over five years to deal with the problem of sexual assault. The Sexual Assault Initiative -- a range of policies and programs to improve services and to raise awareness on the issue of sexual assault -- was born.

While the money allocated had a significant impact on the development of sexual assault activities, it was not enough to meet the ever-increasing demand on services.

Many women were unable to access existing services. As well, the media was paying more attention to the issue of sexual assault, resulting in more women disclosing their own experiences.

Therefore, in May 1991, the Government of Ontario allocated an additional \$8.26 million to the Sexual Assault Initiative for the 91/92 financial year, almost triple the initial funding for that period. This new funding brings the total government expenditure on sexual assault prevention in 1991/92 to nearly \$17 million.

## THE ROLE OF THE INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL ASSAULT

The overall goal of the Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault is to reduce the incidence and impact of sexual assault of women. The committee uses a three-pronged strategy:

- services to the survivors of sexual assault;
- public education and other prevention strategies; and,
- measures to improve the justice system's response to survivors of sexual assault.

The Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault takes a coordinated approach to the



Ontario  
Women's  
Directorate



## **INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL ASSAULT**

### **The Ministries of**

Attorney General/  
Citizenship/  
Colleges & Universities/  
Community & Social Services/  
Consumer & Commercial  
Relations/  
Correctional Services/  
Education/  
Health/  
Housing/  
Labour/  
Municipal Affairs/  
Northern Development &  
Mines/  
Solicitor General/  
Transportation/

### **and the**

Office for Disability Issues/  
Office of Francophone Affairs/  
Office for Seniors' Issues/  
Ontario Anti-Racism  
Secretariat/  
Ontario Native Affairs  
Secretariat/  
Ontario Women's Directorate

problem of sexual assault, both within government and at the community level. For example, at the community level, Initiative funding helped to establish sexual assault networks or coordinating committees. Within government, ministries work together to ensure information sharing and coordination of both the funding and location of services.

In all its decisions, the committee considers the unique problems faced by women who are institutionalized, economically disadvantaged women, rural women, racial minority women, immigrant and refugee women, lesbians, senior women, adolescent women, francophone women, women with disabilities and aboriginal women.

The committee is chaired by the Ontario Women's Directorate and now includes representatives from 20 ministries and agencies. (See sidebar.) Each ministry/agency has a role to play. For example, the Ministry of Transportation sits on the committee because it deals with issues of safety on transit systems, while the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines is a member because of its interest in improving access to services for women living in remote, northern communities.

The Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault meets quarterly. The committee has four sub-committees -- Prevention/Education, Services, Justice and Research -- which meet regularly.

## **SERVICES**

Improving services to survivors of sexual assault is an ongoing priority of the Interministerial Committee. Sexual assault can have long-term, devastating effects. To provide women with the support they need, nearly 80 per cent of the Initiative funding is going towards establishing new services and improving existing ones.

The Services Sub-Committee focuses on

service delivery, including addressing gaps in service and on service coordination and networking at the community level. Its goal is to increase access to crisis, short-term and long-term services which are effective and responsive to the needs of women who have been sexually assaulted. Ministries with a direct link to sexual assault services sit on the Services Sub-Committee. For example, the Ministry of the Solicitor General is represented because of its role in funding sexual assault/rape crisis centres.

The following service areas receive funding through the Sexual Assault Initiative:

### **Crisis Intervention and Counselling**

- Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centres

Funded by the **Ministry of the Solicitor General**, sexual assault/rape crisis centres provide comprehensive services to victims of sexual assault, their families and friends. They also serve agencies and individual professionals in their communities. Services provided by centres can include: 24-hour crisis line; crisis counselling; short-term, long-term, individual and group counselling; medical and legal accompaniment and advocacy; and public education.

- New funding has been provided to sexual assault/rape crisis centres to increase short-term, long-term and crisis counselling services to survivors of sexual assault.

In 1991, 21 sexual assault/rape crisis centres in Ontario received increased funding to provide for more paid staff within the centres. (See sidebar, page 3.) New funding this year will further stabilize those centres and will allow nine more centres to be set up in some severely under-resourced areas of the province. New centres are being introduced in the following areas: Bracebridge, Brantford, Cornwall, North Bay, Owen

Sound, Peel Region, Pembroke, Sault Ste. Marie and York Region. In addition, the Thunder Bay Physical and Sexual Assault Centre, which was previously receiving funding from the Ministry of the Solicitor General, will now be funded on an ongoing basis by the Ministry with Sexual Assault Initiative funding.

## Emergency Medical Care

- Sexual Assault Treatment Centres in Hospitals

Sexual assault treatment centres, funded directly by the **Ministry of Health**, offer 24-hour availability of immediate medical and nursing care, administration of the forensic evidence kit developed by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and short-term follow-up care to victims of sexual assault. Some centres also provide short-term counselling.

As of June 1991, 18 centres had received funding. (See sidebar, page 4.)

Sexual assault treatment centre programs are currently under development in Cornwall, East-West Muskoka, Grey-Bruce, Kitchener-Waterloo, Niagara, Ottawa, Simcoe and Brant.

## Counselling

- The Community Mental Health Branch, **Ministry of Health**, funds sexual assault counselling programs which provide crisis intervention, assessment, and short- and long-term counselling (individual and group) for women 16 years of age and older who are survivors of sexual assault or abuse. Over the past year the number of programs being funded has more than doubled. (See sidebar, page 5.) The following areas are priorities for 1991/92 funding: Lambton County, Kent County, Thames Valley, Grey-Bruce, Wellington-Dufferin, Waterloo Region, Haldimand-Norfolk, Simcoe County, Haliburton, Kawartha and Pine Ridge,

Nipissing, Renfrew County, Ottawa-Carleton, and Hawkesbury-Cornwall.

- **The Ministry of Community and Social Services** also funds community agencies to provide sexual assault counselling. During the first two years of the Sexual Assault Initiative (1989-91), the Ministry funded 36 agencies such as family service agencies, women's centres and transition houses to provide counselling for women survivors of sexual assault.

This year, the new funding will allow mothers of children who are survivors of incest/sexual assault and are involved with child service agencies to obtain counselling for themselves.

## Outreach

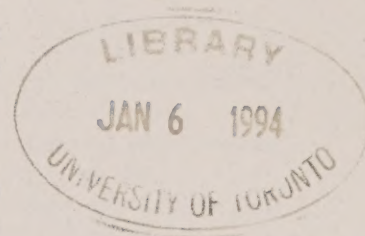
- Part of the new funding, from the **Ministry of the Solicitor General** to sexual assault/rape crisis centres is targeted for outreach to immigrant women, racial minority women, aboriginal women and women with disabilities. New funding will also allow urban sexual assault centres to serve surrounding rural communities that have no services.

- **The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines** is providing new funding this year for outreach to remote northern communities. For example, the funds could enable a counsellor to travel to a remote community; or a community group could apply for a grant to produce public service announcements for radio in a native language.

- **The Office of Francophone Affairs** has identified ten sexual assault/rape crisis centres in Ontario to receive additional funding to develop services in French. This year, a number of francophone community groups have received funding through the Sexual

## FUNDED SEXUAL ASSAULT/RAPE CRISIS CENTRES

Barbra Schlifer  
Commemorative Clinic -  
Toronto/  
Barrie and District Rape Crisis  
Line/  
CARSA-Niagara Region/  
Chatham-Kent Sexual Assault  
Centre/  
Halton Rape Crisis Centre/  
Kingston Sexual Assault  
Centre/  
Ontario Coalition of Rape  
Crisis Centres/  
Oshawa-Durham Rape Crisis  
Centre/  
Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre/  
Peterborough Rape Crisis  
Centre/  
Physical and Sexual Assault  
Centre, Thunder Bay/  
Sarnia Lambton Sexual  
Assault Crisis Centre/  
Scugog Rape Crisis Centre/  
Sexual Assault Centre Guelph/  
Sexual Assault Centre of  
Hamilton and Area/  
Sexual Assault Centre  
London/  
Sexual Assault Crisis Centre -  
Windsor Essex/  
Sexual Assault Support  
Centre - Ottawa/  
Sudbury Sexual Assault Crisis  
Centre/  
Timmins Sexual Assault  
Centre/  
Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/  
Women's Place Kenora



## FUNDED SEXUAL ASSAULT TREATMENT CENTRES

Brockville General Hospital/  
Chedoke McMaster Hospitals,  
Hamilton/  
Dufferin Area Hospital,  
Orangeville/  
Guelph General Hospital/  
Hospital for Sick Children,  
Toronto/  
Mississauga Hospital/  
Pembroke General and  
Renfrew Victoria Hospitals,  
Renfrew County/  
Peterborough Civic Hospital/  
Plummer Memorial Hospital,  
Sault Ste. Marie/  
The Salvation Army Grace  
Hospital, Windsor/  
St. Joseph's Hospital,  
Chatham/  
St. Joseph's Hospital, London/  
St. Joseph's Hospital, Sarnia/  
Scarborough Salvation Army  
Grace Hospital/  
Sudbury General Hospital/  
Whitby General Hospital/  
Women's College Hospital,  
Toronto/  
York Central Hospital,  
Richmond Hill

Assault Initiative to produce videos, plays and other public education materials on sexual assault. Using this material, a series of workshops will be held over the next two years in various francophone communities to raise awareness of the issue of sexual assault and to reach women who have been sexually assaulted.

## Training

- Through the Sexual Assault Initiative, the **Ontario Women's Directorate** is funding the development and implementation of a training program on sexual assault for professionals in the justice, social service and health systems. The draft manual was tested in Cornwall in the spring 1991. To date, training sessions have been held in Kitchener-Waterloo, Peterborough, Sudbury and Thunder Bay, Timmins, Kenora, Barrie, Ottawa and Belleville. The manual is expected to be available in the Fall 1992.

- In tandem with the development of the sexual assault training program, a number of ministries are implementing discipline-specific training and educational programs on sexual assault with funding from the Sexual Assault Initiative.

- Front-line staff of agencies funded by the **Ministry of Community and Social Services** and staff at the Ministry receive training to help them identify sexual assault victims and assess their needs. The goal is to help staff make well-informed and sensitive referrals to appropriate services. In 1990/91, funding was provided for workshops, training sessions and educational forums on sexual assault and related issues such as incest and ritual/cult abuse.

- As a part of the Sexual Assault Initiative,

the **Ministry of Correctional Services** provides a variety of training programs on sexual assault to correctional staff. The programs are available to Ministry staff who work directly with female offenders.

In 1990/91, training was provided to approximately 350 staff, including native community corrections workers, probation and parole officers and members of the Parole Board.

- The **Ministry of the Attorney General** will provide specialized training for Crown attorneys to enhance their knowledge and sensitivity to issues related to sexual assault.

- With funding from the **Ministry of the Solicitor General**, through the Sexual Assault Initiative, about 150 police officers from all OPP districts have participated in a week-long training program on victims' issues, including sexual assault, offered by the Ontario Provincial Police Academy. The Ontario Police College has also offered a number of four-day training sessions on sexual assault investigations. The Ministry also sponsors an annual sensitivity training workshop for instructors of recruit officers. Training workshops on sexual assault for police officers in northern and rural Ontario are being planned for 1992.

- The Women's Health Bureau, **Ministry of Health**, administers the Wife Assault and Sexual Assault Grants Program for the Education of Health Professionals. These one-time grants are available to professional associations, health care organizations, educational institutions, community agencies and women's groups to support the development of education and training programs and resource materials for health professionals about wife assault and sexual assault.

Last year, funded projects included the development of hospital protocols for emergency care of assaulted women, curriculum development on wife assault and sexual assault for health sciences students, and numerous lectures, workshops and conferences.

## Coordination

- Over the past year, grants have gone out from the **Ontario Women's Directorate** to various communities in Ontario to improve community coordination. Many of the communities have used the grants to develop community protocols for sexual assault services in their areas. The protocols and resources developed through this program will be shared with other communities. So far, coordination grants have gone to: Kenora, Thunder Bay, Timmins, Sudbury, Barrie, Belleville, Kitchener-Waterloo, Scugog, Ottawa and Cornwall.

- The Evaluation Working Group of the Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault, is working towards the development of a framework for data collection. In 1992-93, the **Ministry of the Solicitor General** will begin coordinating the collection and analysis of information from the Ministries of Health, Community and Social Services, Attorney General as well as data the Ministry of the Solicitor General collects from the sexual assault/rape crisis centres. Data collection will facilitate the evaluation of the Services component of the Sexual Assault Initiative and will assist the government in determining longer term strategies for addressing the issue of sexual assault.

## PREVENTION/EDUCATION

The mandate of the Prevention/Education Sub-Committee is to develop an overall pre-

vention strategy for the Sexual Assault Initiative. The committee focuses on issues such as addressing violence against women in school curricula; depictions that demean women or girls or portray sexual violence against them; public education; and the safety and security of women in the community.

The goal of the Prevention/Education Initiatives is to foster positive, respectful behaviour and attitudes toward women which recognize that sexual violence against women is unacceptable. In 1991/92, over \$1 million has been allocated to public education and prevention activities.

Public education on sexual assault is vital to changing myths and attitudes that feed into a climate of violence against women. The Sexual Assault Initiative funds the following prevention and education activities:

- June 1991 was declared Sexual Assault Prevention Month. The **Ontario Women's Directorate** sent posters, brochures and fact sheets on sexual assault to approximately 8,000 community organizations, physicians and other professionals and government contacts in Ontario. Articles on the myths and realities of sexual assault were distributed to English and French community newspapers across the province, which also ran an advertisement with the message, "Against Our Will is Against the Law: Sexual Assault is a Crime." Beginning in 1992, May will be the annual provincial Sexual Assault Prevention Month.

- The **Ontario Women's Directorate** funded 75 women's and community-based groups to carry out local public education projects on sexual assault. The majority of these projects took place during Sexual Assault Prevention Month. Funded projects included a pamphlet on sexual assault for native communities both on and off-reserve; a pamphlet on sexual assault for the Cambodian women's commu-

## COUNSELLING CENTRES/AGENCIES FUNDED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Barbra Schlifer  
Commemorative Clinic,  
Toronto/  
Elliot Lake Family Life Centre,  
Elliot Lake/  
Esprit Place, Parry Sound/  
Haven House, Survivors of  
Sexual Assault Program,  
Mindemoya/  
Hearst, Kapuskasing and  
Smooth Rock Falls  
Counselling Services,  
Kapuskasing/  
Kenora Sexual Assault Centre,  
Kenora/  
Lanark Community Mental  
Health Program, Smiths Falls/  
Lanark County Interval House,  
Carleton Place/  
Minto Counselling Centre,  
Cochrane/  
Muskoka Interval House/  
Sexual Assault Intervention for  
Living, Bracebridge/  
Pavilion Centre Sexual Assault  
Program, Haileybury/  
Sexual Assault Crisis Centre of  
Essex County, Windsor/  
Sexual Assault Crisis Centre,  
Kingston/  
Sexual Assault Centre for  
Quinte and District/  
Stratford General Hospital,  
Stratford/  
Survival Through Friendship  
House of Huron County,  
Goderich/  
Thunder Bay Physical and  
Sexual Assault Centre,  
Thunder Bay/  
Timmins Family Counselling  
Centre, Timmins/  
Women's Outreach Program,  
Sault Ste. Marie/  
York Region Abuse Program,  
Newmarket

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

The following research projects on violence against women have received funding through either the Sexual Assault Initiative or the Wife Assault Prevention Initiatives:

### **Sexual Ethics in Psychotherapy**

A research and education project which focuses on the problem of sexual exploitation of clients by therapists. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and the Women's Health Bureau, Ministry of Health)

### **Sexual Harassment in Housing**

A three-year project (currently in year two) looking at 400 women living in co-ops, private housing and Ontario housing to determine the incidence of sexual harassment in housing. The project will examine the particular experiences of special needs groups including Aboriginal women, black women and francophone women. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and the Ministry of Housing)

### **Sexual Assault of Senior Women**

A feasibility study on the sexual assault of senior women is being conducted this year to determine whether and how to examine this issue with senior women in Ontario. (ongoing - with funding from the Office for Seniors' Issues)

### **Violence Against Women with Disabilities in Community Settings**

A service needs assessment examining issues relating to vio-

lence against women with disabilities. This project is due to be completed in the late spring, 1992. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and the Ministry of Community and Social Services)

### **Women with Disabilities**

The DisAbled Women's Network has completed an anecdotal study on the problems women with disabilities face when trying to obtain services.

### **Education Sexual Assault: Project to Improve the Access to Services by Immigrant, Refugee and Women of Colour Who Are Victims of Sexual Assault**

Service responses to immigrant/refugee women and women of colour who have been sexually assaulted will be identified and assessed. A training resource will be developed for front-line workers who work with this population and documentation will be provided to assist the government in developing future responses to this issue. The final report is due on March 31, 1992. (funded by the Women's Health Bureau, Ministry of Health)

### **Breach of Trust as a Factor in Sexual Assault**

The study surveyed and reported on practices of professional organizations and made recommendations on government policies, programs, services and resources which might address the issue of sexual assault by professionals. Copies of this study are available at M.E.T.R.A.C. For further information call 1-(416) 392-3135. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and M.E.T.R.A.C.)

nity; bookmarks for high schools students with information on date rape and incest; a public forum for survivors of sexual assault; and ads on buses with the message "sexual assault is a crime of violence."

- The Ministry of Colleges and Universities is funding a campaign to combat violence against women on university and college campuses, with emphasis on date and acquaintance rape. The campaign will look at prevention and education strategies that will promote healthy gender relationships.

- The Ministry of Education is developing a resource package in English and French to train teachers and other school personnel on sexual assault.

- The Health Promotion Branch at the Ministry of Health is developing a model sexual assault prevention strategy which will integrate service delivery, environmental support and policy changes through a process of community organization and development.

## **JUSTICE**

The Justice Sub-Committee focuses on the policies and practices within the justice system that deal with sexual assault charges. As an early move toward the integration of the Sexual Assault and Wife Assault Prevention Initiatives, this sub-committee has been combined with its counterpart in wife assault. The sub-committee currently oversees four working groups which have been struck to deal with the following issues: restraining orders (wife assault); the criminalization strategy (wife assault); information needs of victims (wife assault and sexual assault); and future planning (sexual assault).

The goal of the Justice Sub-Committee is to improve the responsiveness, accessibility,

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equity and effectiveness of the justice system in addressing the needs of victims of sexual assault and the issue of violence against women. In order to meet this goal, funding is being used to train police, Crown attorneys and correctional services staff on issues relating to sexual assault (see section on Training). As well, additional resources are being provided to assist victims and witnesses during the court process.

- **The Ministry of the Attorney General's** Victim/Witness Assistance program received more funds in 1991/92. This program provides assistance to victims/witnesses of crime as they participate in the court process; referrals for victims/witnesses to local legal, medical, psychological and compensation services; and staff participate in local coordinating committees to identify service needs and help integrate services into effective networks to assist all victims of crime. The Victim/Witness Assistance sites funded through the Sexual Assault Initiative are located in Scarborough and Newmarket. There are 10 other sites in Ontario which receive funding through the Interministerial Initiatives on Wife Assault Prevention. All 12 sites include services to women victims of sexual assault.

- Crown attorneys interview all sexual assault victims before going to trial. This helps victims understand the court process. It is also essential to the Crown in preparing the case. Funding from the **Ministry of the Attorney General** provided through the Sexual Assault Initiative to hire Crown attorneys helps ensure that a victim of sexual assault deals with the same Crown from the time of the pre-trial interview until the conclusion of her case.

- Funding through the **Ministry of the Solicitor General** supports forums on sexual

assault to promote better police and community relations. Community groups must work together with local police on organizing the forum in order to be eligible for funding. Since 1989, forums have been sponsored by the Mississauga General Hospital, the Timmins Sexual Assault Centre, the Barrie and District Rape Crisis Line, the Plummer Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, the Council on Race Relations and Policing in Toronto and the Halton Rape Crisis Centre.

## RESEARCH

The Research Sub-Committee is responsible for developing an evaluation plan for the Initiative as a whole and for monitoring research projects on violence against women. Its activities include identifying gaps in research and setting research priorities. The Research Sub-Committee struck a working group to look at the issue of program evaluation. This Sub-Committee has also joined with its counterpart in the Wife Assault Prevention Initiatives.

Through the leadership of the Working Group on Program Evaluation, the Interministerial Committee on Sexual Assault set goals and objectives for each of the three components of the Initiative and priorities for evaluating the Sexual Assault Initiative. The following evaluation priorities were identified: women's satisfaction with both the availability of sexual assault services and with services that they have used; number of new services and enhancements to existing services; impact of training and public awareness activities; and the amount of increased participation of ministries and service organizations in activities to address the issue of sexual assault. The working group is consulting with funded services to determine what information will help to evaluate the impact of the Sexual Assault Initiative funding.

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### Evaluability Assessment

The Ontario Women's Directorate has completed an evaluability assessment of the sexual assault initiative, with a view to developing a framework for evaluating the initiative at the end of a five-year period. Copies of this study can be obtained by calling the Sexual Assault Unit, Ontario Women's Directorate.

### Sexual Violence and Harassment in Canadian Women's Lives

A ongoing study documenting and analyzing the scope, nature and impact of the problem of violence against girls and women including wife battering, sexual harassment, incest, childhood sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and the Ministries of Community and Social Services, Solicitor General and Health)

### An Exploration of the Role of Physical and Sexual Abuse for Psychiatrically Institutionalized Women

A study which examines the relationship between violence against women, with particular emphasis on violence in the family and psychiatric disability. Copies of this study are available at the Distribution Centre, Ontario Women's Directorate. (funded by the Ontario Women's Directorate and the Women's Health Bureau, Ministry of Health)

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT GRANTS PROGRAMS**

### **Ontario Women's Directorate**

#### *Public Education Grants*

- for local public education projects on sexual assault; local activities to take place during Sexual Assault Prevention Month in May - Contact Bridget Goldsmith at (416) 597-4581.

#### *Coordination Grants*

- for local coordination of sexual assault services - Contact Daintry Norman at (416) 597-4574.

### **Ministry of the Solicitor General**

#### *Community/Police Forums*

- for joint police/community forums on sexual assault to improve working relationships - Contact Paul Welsh at (416) 965-1112.

### **Ministry of Health**

#### *Training of Health Professionals*

- professional development grants for training health care professionals on sexual assault and wife assault - Contact Diane Nannarone at (416) 314-8270.

### **Ministry of Northern Development and Mines**

#### *Northern Ontario Outreach Grants*

- grants to improve the accessibility of northern services, including remote and/or native communities, for women who have been sexually assaulted -

Contact either Michael Gravelle (Thunder Bay) at (807) 475-1585 or Arlene Smith (Sault Ste. Marie) at (705) 942-0100.

### **Office for Disability Issues**

#### *Prevention/Education Grants*

- grants for community prevention and education projects pertaining to violence against women with disabilities. Contact Barbara Robertson at (416) 326-0210.

## **FUTURE INTEGRATION OF THE INTERMINISTERIAL INITIATIVES ON SEXUAL ASSAULT AND WIFE ASSAULT PREVENTION**

By 1994, the government will integrate the Interministerial Initiatives on Sexual Assault and on Wife Assault Prevention into one strategy on the prevention of violence against women. The issues which are currently being addressed by both initiatives stem from the same societal problems. For example, wife assault and sexual assault both involve issues of power and control over women. The membership of both Interministerial Committees is similar. The integration of the Interministerial Initiatives on Sexual Assault and Wife Assault Prevention will not affect services currently offered or planned. There will continue to be specific services for victims of sexual assault such as sexual assault/rape crisis centres -- while shelters for battered women will continue to receive separate funding. The purpose of integrating the initiatives is to give prominence to the issue of violence against women and to offer a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to the issue.

**For further information,  
please call the  
Ontario Women's Directorate,  
Sexual Assault Unit  
(416) 597-4513  
Collect calls are accepted.**

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